



## Rockville RainScapes Rewards Pavement Removal Rebate Application

Replacing pavement with turf or native plants can help prevent stormwater runoff and pollutants from entering our streams. Runoff can carry pollutants such as dirt, lawn care fertilizer and chemicals, pet waste and trash into our streams. By reducing the amount of rainwater leaving your property, you can help improve local streams by reducing erosion and water pollution. Reducing paved surfaces also supports sustainable living, and adds attractive landscaping to your home and community.

The City of Rockville offers two rebate options for pavement removal:

- **\$4 per square foot of area converted up to \$1,200** for replacement with native plants. Minimum area is 100 square feet.
- **\$3 per square foot of area converted up to \$1,200** for replacement with sod. Minimum area is 100 square feet.

The program also offers rebates for rain barrel installations, conservation landscaping and native trees. For the most up-to-date information regarding the City of Rockville's RainScapes program please visit:

<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes>.

### **Who Is Eligible**

- To participate, your residential property must be located in the City of Rockville.
- Projects are **not** eligible if they are associated with permit approval requirements for new building construction, additions, or renovations.
- Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will **not** qualify for rebates.
- All requirements outlined below, in the application, and in the *Design Guidelines* must be met. All decisions are final and are at the sole discretion of the City of Rockville.

### **Application Process & Requirements**

1. **Submit your application, property owner agreement, and other attachments.**  
*Complete the online application at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/Public-Works-8/Pavement-Removal-Rebate-Application-111>. Mail the Property Owner Agreement and any additional attachments (photos, sketches, etc.) to the RainScapes Coordinator at [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov) or mail to 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville MD 20850.*
2. **Receive application approval from RainScapes Coordinator.**  
*Wait to receive application approval from the RainScapes Coordinator before beginning the project. Please allow three weeks for processing. Projects must be completed within six (6) months of approval.*
3. **Begin and complete your project.**  
*You must retain and submit itemized receipts and/or final invoices for all project costs. Documented costs must equal or exceed the rebate amount requested. The project must adhere to the most recent Design Guidelines.*
4. **Final inspection.**  
*Call or email the City of Rockville RainScapes Coordinator at 240-314-8877 or [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov) to schedule a final inspection. Inspections will generally be scheduled within ten (10) business days. Submit itemized receipts and/or final invoice for all*

*project costs. Photocopies are acceptable. At the final inspection, installation of the project will be verified, and the project area will be photographed.*

**5. Receive reimbursement check.**

*If all requirements are met, the rebate will be approved, and a check will be issued by the City of Rockville's Department of Finance within three to six weeks.*

Please mail or e-mail the completed application with required information and **wait to receive approval** from the City of Rockville. If you have any questions please contact the RainScapes Coordinator at 240-314-8877 or [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)

**City of Rockville – Environmental Management Division  
RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850  
[rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)**

Special thanks to Montgomery County's RainScapes Program for sharing their curriculum and text.

Although City residents are ineligible for the County rebate, we are modeling much of our program after Montgomery County's so please feel free to reference their website for any additional information.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/rainscapes-rebates.html>



## Design Guidelines Issue Date 4/2014

*\*\* These guidelines will be periodically updated to ensure currency with the latest technical information and best practices – please verify that you have the latest version. \*\**

Project Type	Rebate
Pavement removal replaced with native plants	\$4 per square foot
Pavement removal replaced with turf (sod)	\$3 per square foot

\*Please note that we cannot provide a rebate over the dollar amount that you spent on the projects based on your submitted receipts.

### Conservation Landscaping Requirements

- ☐ **Remember to call 1-800-MISS-UTILITY (1-800-257-7777) before you dig!**
- ☐ **Written approval** from the RainScapes Coordinator is required before you begin installation or construction. Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will not qualify for rebates.
- ☐ **Location**
  - Must be existing impervious surface (walkway, patio, excess driveway etc.)
  - Public sidewalks or other impervious surface found in the right-of-way cannot be removed.
  - Does not divert water from the existing flow path
  - Does not back up water onto a neighbors property
- ☐ Pavement area to be converted must be **at least 100 square feet**.
- ☐ Remove pavement and compacted gravel sub-base.
- ☐ **Soil Improvement**
  1. **Loosen** the soil to a depth of 9-12 inches with a tiller, rake or shovel.\*
  2. **Add** 2 inches of compost to the soil.
  3. **Mix** compost into the soil using the tiller, rake or shovel.

*\*Note: Decompaction will be checked for at the final site visit. If there are trees with roots in the project area, loosening soil with a tiller is not recommended as this may damage tree roots.*
- ☐ Conservation Landscaping Replacement (higher rebate option)
  - A **planting plan** is required that includes
    - sketch of the area drawn at 1' = 10', 1/8" = 1', or 1/4" = 1'
    - plant species, container size and quantities
    - planting densities
    - plant material source
    - soil amendments (if any)
    - maintenance plan
  - At least **¾ of the plants must be native** plants, trees, or cultivars to this ecoregion.
  - A **3 to 4 inch mulch layer** is required to inhibit weed growth, prevent soil loss and retain moisture.
  - The plan **must not include any species from the City's Invasive Species Plant List** (available at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?nid=841> or by emailing rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)
  - **No plastic sheeting** (impermeable weed barrier) will be permitted.
- ☐ Sod Replacement

- **Replace with sod only.** Seed is not permitted.
- **Follow the guidelines for sod installation found in the Lawn Establishment, Renovation and Overseeding Factsheet (HG102) from University of Maryland** found in this packet.
- **Important Reminders:**
  - Do not leave soil uncovered for more than 7 days.
  - Water sod immediately after installation and keep moist during the rooting process (2-3 weeks). Do not allow sod to dry out either during storage or after installation.

**Additional Resources:**

Montgomery County Pavement Removal Project Manual

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/Resources/Files/PostersPamphlets/pavementremoval.pdf>